

Mineral Industry Surveys

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GYPSUM IN JANUARY 2006

Producers mined 1.59 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum in January 2006 (table 1). Output was 12% less than that of December 2005 and 35% more than that of January 2005. Synthetic gypsum production was 761,000 metric tons (t) in January 2006 (table 1), which was slightly less than that of December 2005, and 3% more than that of January 2005. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. The wallboard industry is the largest domestic consumer of gypsum. During January through December 2005 synthetic gypsum accounted for 9.41 Mt, or about 24%, of the 39.4-Mt supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 432,000 t (table 2), 52% less than that of December 2005 and 4% more than that of January 2005.

Output of calcined gypsum for January 2006 (table 1) was 2.19 Mt, 13% more than that of December 2005 and 14% more than that of January 2005. Sales of board products were about 3.1 billion square feet (288 million square meters), 4% more

than that of December 2005 and 16% more than that of January 2005.

U.S. Government import and export data for January 2006 were not available at the time of publication. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in December 2005 were 1,040,000 t (table 3), 21% more than that of November 2005 and 9% more than that of December 2004. Gypsum wallboard imports, principally from Canada, for December 2005 were 65,000 t, equivalent to 78 million square feet (7.2 million square meters). These imports were 14% less than that of November 2005 and 41% more than that of December 2004. Wallboard exports to 30 countries and territories in December 2005 were 8,300 t, equivalent to 10.0 million square feet (924,000 square meters). These exports were 3% less than that of November 2005 and 11% more than that of December 2004.

All percentages in this report were computed based on unrounded data.

TABLE 1
GYPSUM SUPPLY^{1, 2}

(Metric tons)

	2006	2005	
	January	December	January
Crude:			
Mined ³	1,590,000	1,820,000	1,180,000
Imported ⁴	NA	1,040,000	770,000
Synthetic gypsum ⁵	761,000	770,000	738,000
Total supply	NA	3,620,000	2,690,000
Crude, exported ⁴	NA	11,400	13,800
Consumption	NA	3,610,000	2,670,000
Calcined:			
Produced	2,190,000	1,950,000	1,920,000
Imported ⁶	NA	664	738
Total supply	NA	1,950,000	1,920,000
Exported ⁶	NA	14,000	12,800
Consumption	NA	1,930,000	1,910,000

NA Not available.

¹Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³Some data were estimated from semiannual reports.

⁴Import and export data are for "Gypsum; anhydrite," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.10.0000.

⁵Reported production only.

⁶Import and export data are for "Plaster," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.20.0000.

TABLE 2
GYPSUM SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS, BY USE^{1, 2}

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2006	2005	
	January	December	January
Uncalcined: ³			
Portland cement	240,000	306,000	218,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	192,000	591,000	198,000
Total	432,000	897,000	416,000
Calcined:			
Board products ⁴	2,590,000	2,490,000	2,230,000
Plaster	12,000	11,000	12,900
Total	2,600,000	2,500,000	2,240,000
Board products: (Thousand square feet) ⁵			
Regular board	1,910,000	1,830,000	1,660,000
Type X board	915,000	878,000	767,000
Other	280,000	277,000	244,000
Total supply	3,110,000	2,980,000	2,670,000

¹Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³Does not include synthetic gypsum from electric power plants.

⁴Includes weight of paper and other materials.

⁵One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

TABLE 3
CRUDE GYPSUM IMPORTED FOR CONSUMPTION¹

(Metric tons)

Country of origin	2005			2004
	December	November	January-December	January-December
Austria	--	--	--	8
Bahrain	--	--	7	--
Brazil	17,000	--	17,000	--
Canada	750,000	562,000	7,650,000	6,890,000
China	--	--	16	41,300
Costa Rica	--	--	--	53
Denmark	--	--	36	--
Dominica	--	--	2	--
Dominican Republic	5,010	7,710	166,000	149,000
France	--	--	52	15
Germany	22	22	142	1,800
Italy	--	--	1	26,900
Jamaica	--	--	64,600	40,400
Japan	--	--	--	3
Jordan	--	10	10	--
Mexico	--	233,000	2,280,000	2,040,000
Morocco	1	--	--	1
Netherlands	--	--	--	3
Peru	--	--	80	11
Spain	45,800	60,000	782,000	728,000
Sweden	--	--	80	--
United Kingdom	--	--	1	21
Total	1,040,000	863,000	11,200,000	10,100,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4
CRUDE GYPSUM IN THE UNITED STATES^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Consumption ³	Production ⁴	Imports ⁵	Exports ⁵
2004:				
December	2,420	1,480	958	14
January-December	26,900	16,900	10,100	149
2005:				
January	2,220	1,460	770	14
February	2,190	1,460	755	17
March	2,400	1,470	964	27
April	2,320	1,420	909	12
May	2,800	1,820	994	11
June	2,580	1,620	972	10
July	2,500	1,590	923	9
August	2,550	1,630	926	12
September	2,890	1,680	1,230	18
October	2,550	1,720	848	14
November	2,400	1,550	863	17
December	2,840	1,820	1,040	14
January-December	30,200	19,200	11,200	189
2006:				
January	NA	1,590	NA	NA

NA Not available.

¹Excludes synthetic gypsum.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

³Consumption calculated by adding the production and imports shown in this table and subtracting the exports shown in this table. Monthly inventory changes are not included.

⁴Production data are from the semiannual gypsum canvasses of the non-wallboard producers, annual canvass of all producers, and from monthly data furnished by the Gypsum Association from the wallboard producers.

⁵Data from U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5
SALES OF GYPSUM BOARD PRODUCTS, BY SALES REGIONS^{1,2}

(Thousand square feet)³

	New England	Middle Atlantic	E. North Central	W. North Central	South Atlantic	E. South Central	W. South Central	Mountain	Pacific	Exports	Total
2006:											
January:											
Veneer base	22,200	2,520	7,920	8,470	8	18	657	386	1,340	138	43,700
Sheathing	1,210	3,950	5,490	15,500	2,990	12,300	6,320	6,640	9,830	1,570	65,800
Regular gypsum board	40,600	145,000	214,000	559,000	152,000	255,000	117,000	193,000	201,000	35,600	1,910,000
Type X gypsum board	29,000	91,900	116,000	158,000	38,500	102,000	69,400	119,000	185,000	6,370	915,000
Predecorated board	193	807	861	1,380	295	836	543	372	598	47	5,930
5/16 Mobile home board	--	320	2,750	11,000	14,200	7,080	--	178	609	--	36,200
Water/moisture resistant board	4,760	20,200	15,000	30,000	6,330	13,200	6,600	11,200	16,400	4,380	128,000
Total	98,000	265,000	363,000	784,000	214,000	390,000	200,000	331,000	414,000	48,100	3,110,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Sales region equivalent to U.S. Census Bureau Geographic Division as follows: New England (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT); Middle Atlantic (NJ, NY, PA); East North Central (IL, IN, MI, OH, WI); West North Central (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD); South Atlantic (DC, DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV); East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN); West South Central (AR, LA, OK, TX); Mountain (AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT, WY); Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA).

³One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

Source: Gypsum Association.